



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
-----------------	-------------	----------------------	---------------------	------------------

10/761,162

01/20/2004

David R. Arnold

1566

2557

23518 7590 01/08/2007
KEY SAFETY SYSTEMS, INC.
PATENT DEPARTMENT
7000 NINETEEN MILE ROAD
STERLING HEIGHTS, MI 48314

EXAMINER

GARCIA, ERNESTO

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3679

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
----------------------------------------	-----------	---------------

3 MONTHS

01/08/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/761,162

Applicant(s)

ARNOLD ET AL.

Examiner

Ernesto Garcia

Art Unit

3679

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 26 October 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 2,3,8-13 and 17 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 12 and 13 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 2,8,11 and 17 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 3,9 and 10 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

The indicated allowability of claim 8 is withdrawn in view of the newly discovered reference(s) to Johnson et al., 4,342,166. Rejections based on the newly cited reference(s) follow.

The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

Specification

The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: reference character "82" on paragraph 031, line 9, amended on 10/26, 2006, should be --80-- since no such reference character appears on the drawings. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Objections

Claims 2, 3, 8-10, 13, and 17 are objected to because of the following informalities:

regarding claims 2, 3, 9, 10, and 13, "device" in line 1 should --combination-- since there is no antecedent basis for a device but rather a combination; and,

regarding claims 8 and 17, the recitation "received in a snap-fit manner upon a one of the first or the second side of the plate", in lines 14-15, should be rephrased since it read as if the two legs are in either the first side or the second side. It is suggested to amend the language as --respectively received in a snap-fit manner upon the first or second side of the plate--. Appropriate correction is required. For purposes of examining the instant invention, the examiner has assumed these corrections have been made.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

Claim 11 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention.

Regarding claim 11, the subject matter "or detent extending from the depressed portion" recited in line 15 and "the detent extending further into the recess of the fastener than the depressed portion extends into the recess" recited in line 15-17 are not supported by the written description. No such detent has been alternatively recited extending from the depressed portion 60. The specification only has support for a tab

and the tab is not equivalent to a detent. The depressed portion 60 is equivalent to a detent for alternative recitations, but not the tab 80 as originally presented.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

Claims 2, 8 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Johnson et al., 43,42,166.

Regarding claim 8, Johnson et al. disclose, in Figures 3, a combination of a fastener **27** and a quick connect anchor. The anchor comprises a plate **22** and a resilient blocking member **26**. The plate **22** has a first side **A1** (see marked-up attachment), a second side **A2**, and a fastener opening (hidden in Figure 3; however, shown in Figure 1, see hole 15). The plate **22** is configured to be placed over the fastener **27**, and configured to be moved in a first direction from a free position to a locked position. The configuration to be moved in a first direction from a free position to a locked position. The resilient block member 26 is movable with the plate from a first position, in a which the resilient member is free from the fastener. The resilient blocking member **26** includes a first leg **A3** and a second leg **A3**. The first leg **A3** is secured to the first side **A1** and the second leg **A3** is secured to the second side **A2**. The resilient blocking member **26** further includes a resilient bridge **A5** spanning a distance between the first leg **A3** and the second leg **A3**, and extending over a portion of the first member 22. The portion having the fastener opening. The first leg and the second leg **A3** are

each respectively received in a snap-fit manner upon the first side and the second side. The first leg and the second leg terminate in a hook (see Figure 1 to see the hook) received within a recess **A7** of each of the plate sides **A1,A2**.

Regarding claim 2, the combination further includes a stop (the head of the pin).

Regarding claim 17, Johnson et al. disclose, in Figures 3, a combination of a fastener **27** and a quick connect anchor. The anchor comprises a first member **22** and a resilient blocking member **26**. The first member **22** has a first side **A1** (see marked-up attachment), a second side **A2**, and a fastener opening (hidden in Figure 3; however, shown in Figure 1, see hole 15). The first member **22** is configured to be placed over the fastener **27**, and configured to be moved in a first direction from a free position to a locked position. The configuration to be moved in a first direction from a free position to a locked position. The resilient block member **26** is movable with the first member from a first position, in a which the resilient member is free from the fastener. The resilient blocking member **26** includes a first leg **A3** and a second leg **A3**. The first leg **A3** is secured to the first side **A1** and the second leg **A3** is secured to the second side **A2**. The resilient blocking member **26** further includes a resilient bridge **A5** spanning a distance between the first leg **A3** and the second leg **A3**, and extending over a portion of the first member **22**. The portion having the fastener opening. The first leg and the second leg **A3** are each respectively received in a snap-fit manner upon the first side

and the second side. The first leg and the second leg terminate in a hook (see Figure 1 to see the hook) received within a recess **A7** of each of the first member sides **A1,A2**.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 3, 9, and 10 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 12 and 13 are allowed.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

regarding claim 3, the prior art of record does not disclose or suggest a combination of a fastener and a quick connect anchor, comprising a motion stop being formed from a portion of a resilient blocking member; the closest prior art, Johnson et al., 4,342,166, teach a motion stop being the head of a pin; there is no motivation to make the resilient blocking member include a motion stop formed from a portion of the blocking member;

regarding claim 9, the prior art of record does not disclose or suggest a combination of a fastener and a quick connect anchor, comprising a fastener opening includes a large diameter portion and a small diameter portion; the closest prior art,

Johnson et al., 4,342,166, teach a fastener opening including one portion and thus a second portion is not required;

regarding claim 10, the prior art of record does not disclose or suggest a combination of a fastener and a quick connect anchor, comprising a fastener includes a head having a recess in a top surface in combination with a resilient bridge includes a center portion having a depression configured to be snapped into the recess of the head; the closest prior art, Johnson et al., 4,342,166, teach a fastener includes a head which would have been obvious to add a recess to the head; however, Johnson et al. fails to disclose the depression at a center portion of the resilient bridge. There's no motivation to make the combination of features as the pin acts as a depression;

regarding claim 12, the prior art fails to disclose or suggest a quick connect anchor, in combination with a fastener, comprising a center portion of a bridge of a resilient blocking member, being one-half of a circle having a rear edge positioned opposite a first direction (lines 21-22); the closest prior art, Pelz, 5,051,021, teaches a one-half of a cylinder and no rear edge to retain the fastener; and,

regarding claim 13, this claim depends from claim 12.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 11 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground of rejection.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ernesto Garcia whose telephone number is 571-282-7083. The examiner can normally be reached from 9:30-5:30. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Daniel P. Stodola can be reached at 571-272-7087.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



E.G.

January 1, 2007

Attachment: one marked-up page of Johnson et al., 4,342,166

DANIEL P. STODOLA
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3600

Johnson et al., 4,342,166

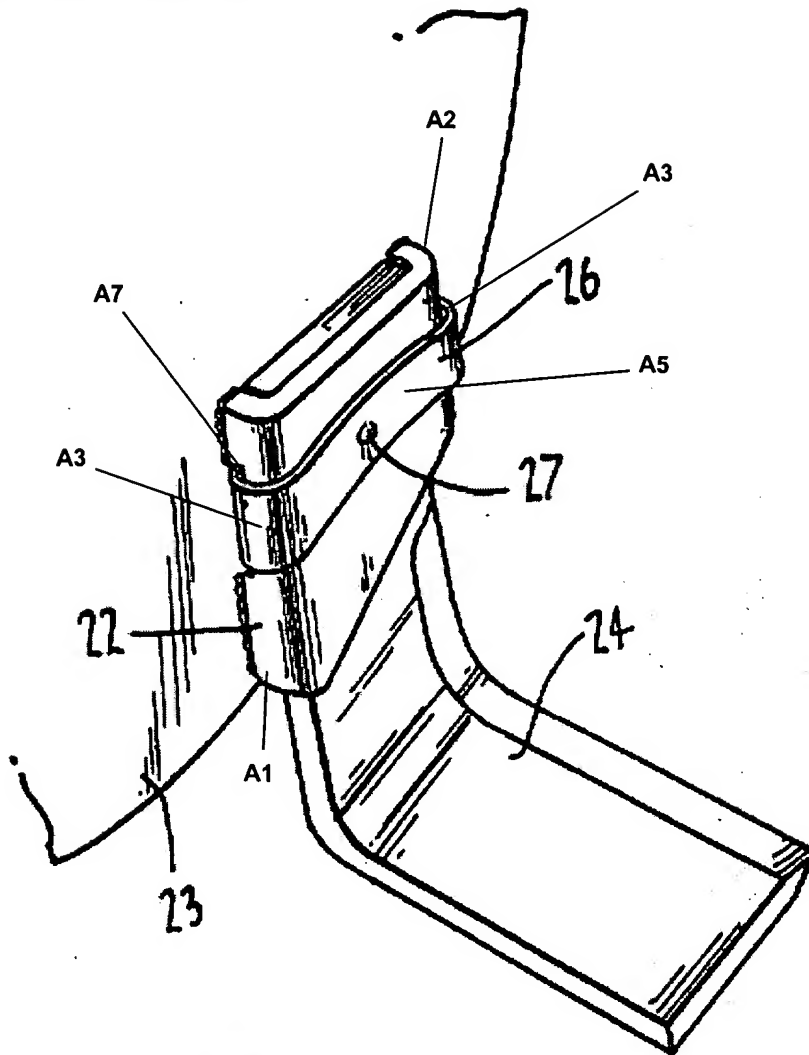


FIG. 3.